

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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| COUNTRY | East Germany | REPORT | |
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR KEY, SEE ATTACHED)

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1. There were no important developments at the Institute for Medicine and Biology, Berlin-Buch, during the period, October 1953 to April 1954. The lack of progress in research work is reflected by the infrequency of the reporting sessions. These are supposed to occur every week and, at each one, a research worker or syndicate should give an account of his or its work. During the last half year many sessions were cancelled, simply because no work worthy of reporting had been accomplished, and they are now held about once every three weeks.

2. Personalities

a. Professor Walter Friedrich celebrated his birthday in December 1953. The Cancer Research Archives had great difficulty in finding enough material worth reading to produce a special booklet in honor of the occasion. He has become little more than a political figure and the amount of administrative work which falls to him by virtue of his position as president of the Academy of Sciences seems to preclude his taking any active part in nuclear physics research, although in past years he did some successful work in this field.

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b. Professor Herberg Lüers, hitherto sharing with his wife, Dr. Thea Lüers, the direction of the Genetics Section

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c. FrI. Dr. Ing. Lieselotte Herforth¹ of the Biophysical Section now does very little work in the Institute and is preparing to qualify as a recognized lecturer in order to take up an appointment as Dozentin in physics in Leipzig.

d. Dr. Hans Gummel and Dr. Lüers have been appointed professors.

3. Location

The planned move of the crystal structure analysis group to the premises of the

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the Berliner Gluehlampenwerk, Berlin O 17, Warschauerstr. has not taken place, but is still under discussion.

4. Neutron Physics Department

Prof. Friedrich ~~shows an interest in the so-called~~ ~~ment of the so-called~~ "Neutron House", but, as previously reported, it is used by people whose work has nothing to do with nuclear physics. The large generator, which is supposed to be coming from Sachsenwerk Niedersiedlitz has not yet arrived, nor is there any information about a delivery date. The building itself is falling into disrepair. A member of the Institute has expressed the opinion that the whole project is based on ~~fact~~ ~~reception~~ in planning, imposed upon the East German Government by Prof. Friedrich, and that in reality there can be no intention of ever attempting important work in this place in the field of neutron physics.

Comment: The impending departure of Frl. Dr. Herforth, the Institute's only expert in the handling of radio-active isotopes, may well be significant.

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